REMARKS

Reconsideration and the timely allowance of the pending claims, in view of the following remarks, are respectfully requested.

In the pending Office Action, the Examiner objected to the Specification for certain informalities. The Examiner rejected claims 1-10, under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as allegedly being unpatentable over Kaizu et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0097985, herein Kaizu) in view of Ellis et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2005/0028208, herein Ellis).

By this Amendment, the specification has been amended to correct a minor typographical error. Applicants submit that by virtue of this correction, the informalities indicated by the Examiner have been rectified. Applicants note an apparent error in the office action at page 2. In particular, the Examiner alleged that the apparatus 10 is improperly labeled as "the apparatus 0.10". However, it is noted that "the apparatus 0.10" is not found in the Specification. Apparently, the immediate withdrawal of the objections to the Specification is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 6 have been also amended by this amendment to incorporate the subject matters of now-cancelled claims 3, 4, 8, and 9. Accordingly, claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 7 and 10 are presented for examination, of which claim 1 and 6 are independent.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections, under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), for the following reasons:

I. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

Amended claim 1 is directed to a video-data recording/reproducing apparatus and positively recites, *inter alia,* ***a transmitting unit which transmits the recording reservation data acquired from the information-providing site, to the information terminal*** via the communications unit; and ***a transferring unit which transfers new recording reservation data transmitted from the information terminal via the communications unit, to the reservation-***

storing unit, the new recording reservation data being changed from the recording reservation data or containing data items added to the recording reservation data by the information terminal.

These features are amply supported by the embodiments disclosed in the written description. (*See, e.g.,* Specification: page 9, line 19 through page 10, line 15) The disclosed embodiments provide that an apparatus 10 receives reservation data from an iEPG site 40 and transmits the reservation data to a PC 20 via the Internet 30. Upon receipt of the reservation data, a user may operate the PC 20 to change the reservation data or add new data items to the reservation data and transmit new reservation data to the apparatus 10 via the Internet 30. The apparatus 10 receives the new reservation data and transfers it to a timer MPU 109.

Applicants submit that the Kaizu reference fails to teach or suggest each and every element of claim 1, including the features identified above. In particular, Kaizu discloses a personal computer 1 which is connected to the Internet 6 via the public switched line network 4 and the access server 5. An EPG server 7 which is connected to the Internet 6 stores a program guide listing programs to be broadcast and preset recording data which allows the user to set preset recording of each program in the personal computer 1. (*See*, Kaizu, [0039]-[0042]). The personal computer 1 accesses the EPG server 7 and downloads certain preset recording data and stores the downloaded preset recording data into the RAM 23 as a television program to be recorded. (*See*, Kaizu, [0107], [0108] and [0126]).

However, Applicants submit that Kaizu fails to teach or suggest ***a transmitting unit which transmits the recording reservation data acquired from the information-providing site, to the information terminal*** via the communications unit; and ***a transferring unit which transfers new recording reservation data transmitted from the information terminal via the communications unit, to the reservation-storing unit, the new recording reservation data being changed from the recording reservation data or containing data items added to the recording reservation data by the information terminal,*** as required by claim 1. Specifically, Kaizu merely discloses that recording process can be controlled by a mobile phone, but does not disclose the personal computer 1 may transmit to such a mobile phone recording reservation data of Applicants' invention. In addition, Kaizu is absolutely silent with respect to ***new recording reservation data*** described in claim 1.

In view of this, Applicants submit that it is clear that Kaizu fails to teach or suggest ***a transmitting unit and a transferring units,*** as required by claim 1.

Alternatively, Ellis discloses that a remote program guide access device 24 communicates with user a television equipment 22 over a remote access link 19. The program guide access device 24 provides the user television equipment 22 with requests commands or other communications. Such communications are forwarded to program guide server 25. The program guide server 25 provides the user television equipment 22 with program guide data. Such program guide data is then forwarded by the user television equipment 22 to the program guide access device 24. (*See*, Ellis, [0074] and FIG. 2c).

Ellis also discloses a system which employs on the user television equipment 22 a set-top box implementing such features as setting reminders, program recording, and so on. In this system, the user of the remote program guide access device 24 may access a suitable web page provided by a Internet service system 61 to change settings. The changed settings are then automatically transferred from the Internet system 61 to user television equipment 22. (*See*, Ellis, [0099] and [0100]; and FIGS. 6a and 6b).

However, Applicants submit that Ellis, in spite of its comprehensive description, fails to teach or suggest ***a transferring unit which transfers new recording reservation data transmitted from the information terminal via the communications unit, to the reservation-storing unit, the new recording reservation data being changed from the recording reservation data or containing data items added to the recording reservation data by the information terminal,*** as required by claim 1. In particular, for the purpose of changing settings, the Ellis reference provides that the remote program guide access device 24 does not change the program guide data forwarded from the user television equipment 22. Rather, the remote program guide access device 24 accesses the Internet service system 61 to change settings.

As noted above, Applicants submit that neither Kaizu nor Ellis, when taken singly or in combination thereof, teaches or suggests the claimed features, *inter alia,* ***a transmitting unit and a transferring units,*** as required by claim 1.

Furthermore, in the office action, there is no reason given to support the proposed combination, other than the statement "it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art to modify the system of Kaizu by allowing a remote terminal to sent a request for recording to the home terminal, as taught by Ellis, for the benefit of allowing the user to internet with a set-top box without being physically located near the set-top box".

However, Applicants submit that such teachings are not sufficient to gratuitously and selectively substitute parts of the reference for a part of another reference in order to meet the applicants' novel combination. Applicants point out that Kaizu does not disclose that the remote terminal (also referred to as "mobile phone" in [0045] of the Kaizu reference) interacts with personal computer 1, rather the mobile phone directly access the EPG server 7 as with the personal computer 1. (*See*, Kaizu, [0045]). That is, Kaizu does not intend to make such a mobile phone cooperate or interact with the personal computer 1, but Kaizu intends to substitute the personal computer 1 with the mobile phone. In fact, the mobile phone downloads preset recording data from the EPG server 7 and transmits commands to the VCR 2. (*Id*).

In view of this, Applicants submit that combining Kaizu and Ellis is not legally justified and is therefore improper.

Even if the combination of Kaizu and Ellis were legally justified, claim 1 would still have novel and unobvious features over the proposed combination. Specifically, ***a transferring unit*** clearly distinguish Applicant's video-data recording/reproducing apparatus from the combination of Kaizu and Ellis.

For at least these reasons, Applicants submit that claim 1 is not rendered unpatentable by Kaizu and Ellis. Furthermore, because similar patentable limitations are found in independent claim 6, claim 6 is submitted as also being patentable over Kaizu applied either alone or in combination with Ellis.

In addition, claims 2, 5, 7 and 10 depend from claim 1. As such, claims 2, 5, 7 and 10 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency as well as for their additional recitations.

II. Conclusion.

All matters having been addressed and in view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request the entry of this Amendment, the Examiner's reconsideration of this application, and the immediate allowance of all pending claims.

Applicants' representative remains ready to assist the Examiner in any way to facilitate and expedite the prosecution of this matter. If any point remains in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, please contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 033975. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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